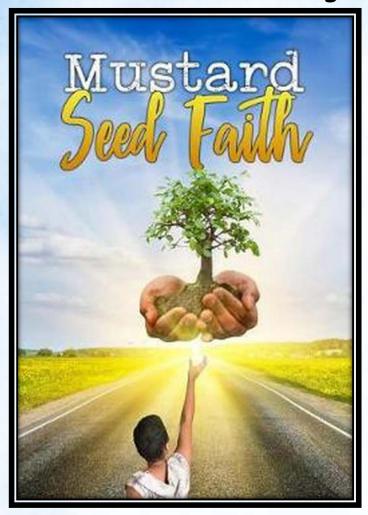
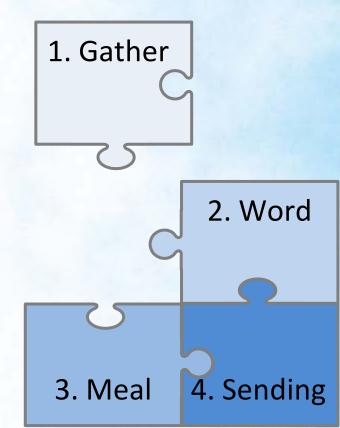
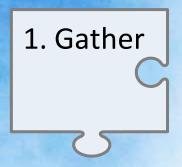
WELCOME!

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church February 12, 2023



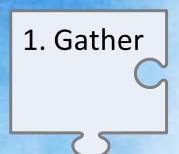




- * = Please stand if able
 - = Please be seated



- Prelude Roxanne Groff
- Office of the Acolyte
- Ringing of the Bell
- Welcome



All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

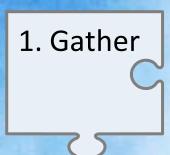
C: Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family



P: Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ

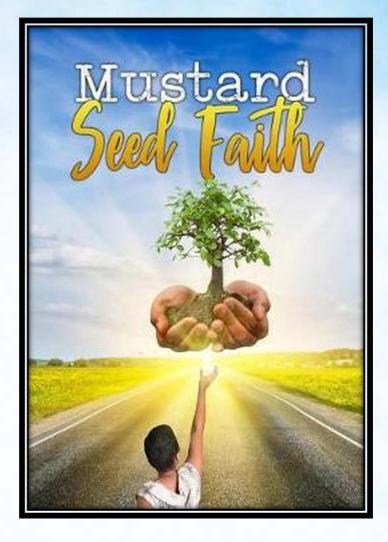
1. Gather

P: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The service continues with gathering song.

GATHERING SONG



"Gather Us In" ELW 532

* Gather Us In ELW 532

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

1 Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

2 Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

3 Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

3 Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

* Gather Us In ELW 532

4 Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

* APOSTOLIC GREETING

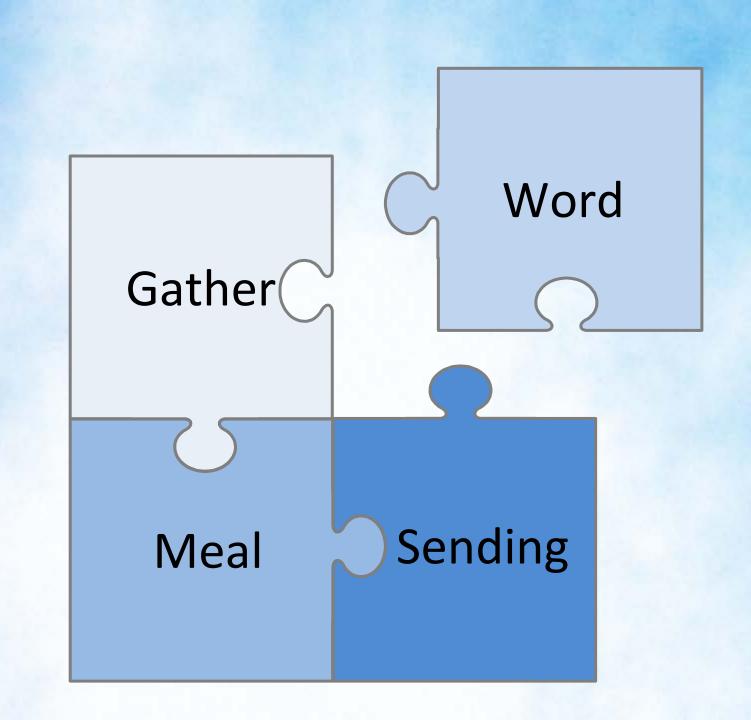
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

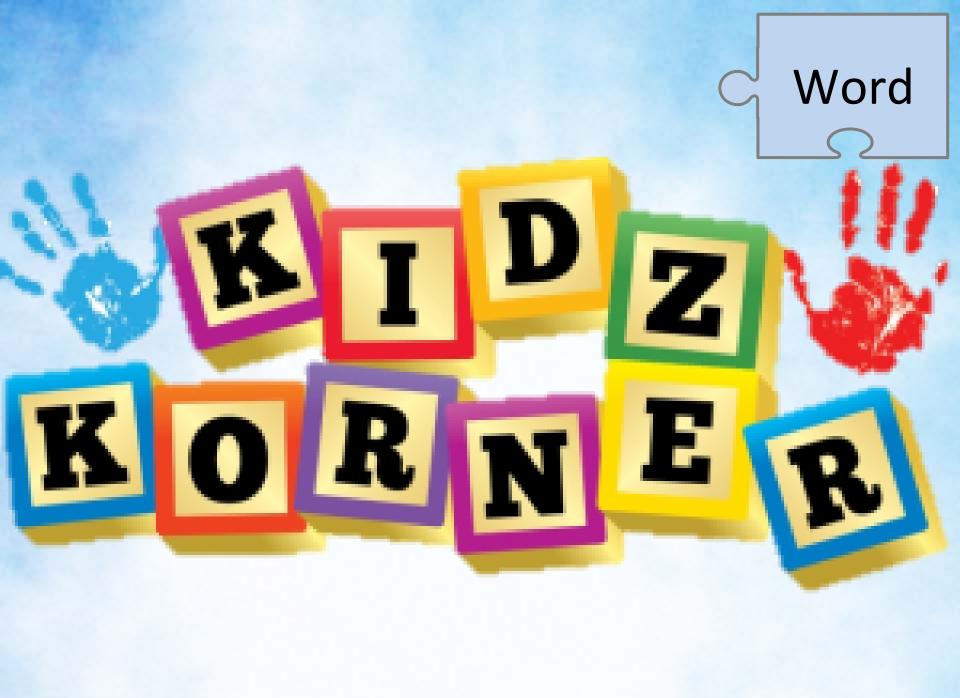
C: And also with you.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Gracious God, your Son spoke to us in parables about the nature of your reign. Give us ears to hear and hearts to understand that we might be instruments of your peace and justice.

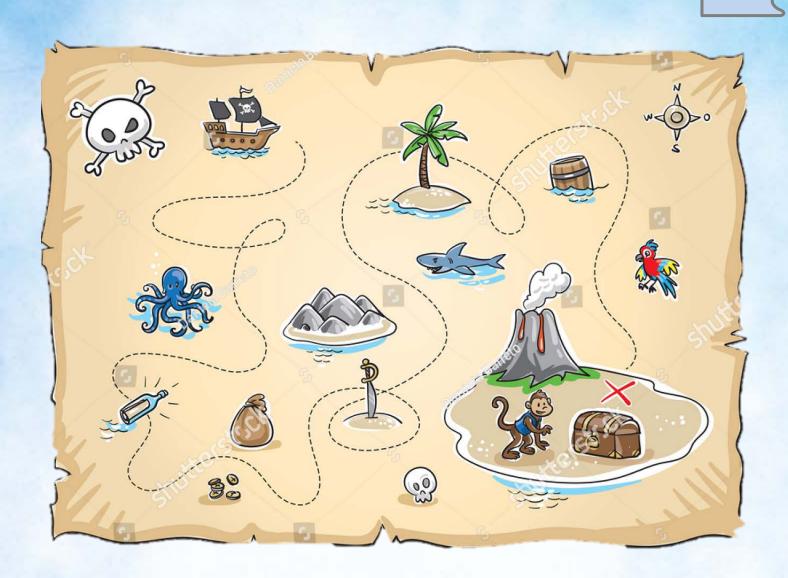
C: Amen.



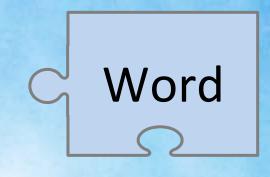




Word







R: Our scripture reading for this day is from the Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter..

C: Glory to you O' Lord! (Spoken)



²⁴He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and

said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' 28He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29 But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at



harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

³¹He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes

a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." 33He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." 34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. 35This was to fulfill what had been spoken



through the prophet: "I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."

37He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field

is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his



kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

44"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy



he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." 45" Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

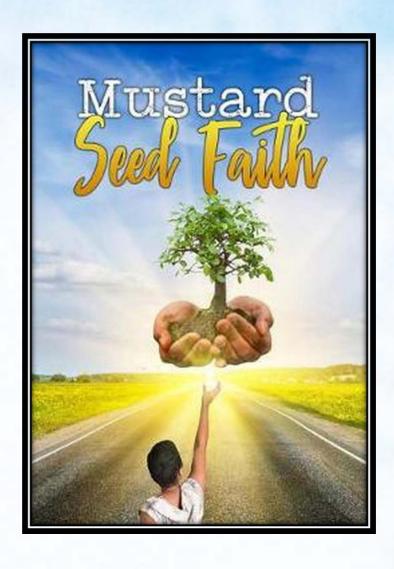


R: This is the Word of the Lord.

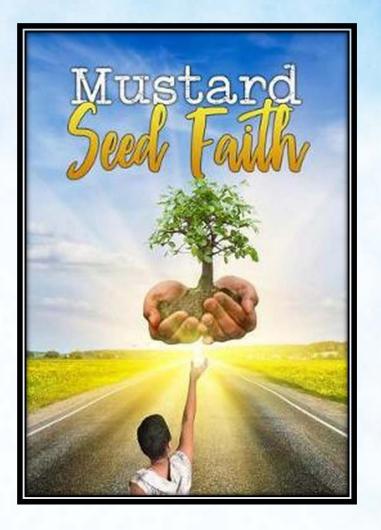
C: Praise to You, O Christ (Spoken)

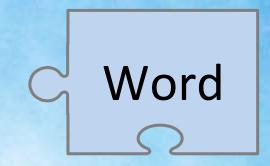
Sermon

Word



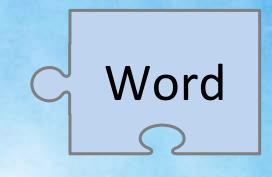
* HYMN OF THE DAY





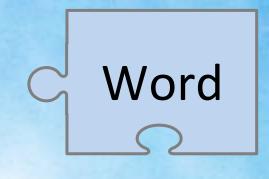
Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak LBW 403

* Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak LBW 403



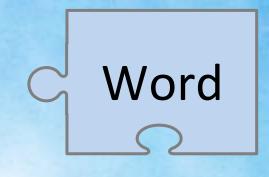
1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in living echoes of your tone; as you have sought, so let us seek your straying children, lost and lone.

* Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak LBW 403



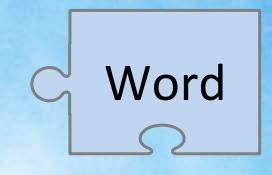
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

* Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak LBW 403



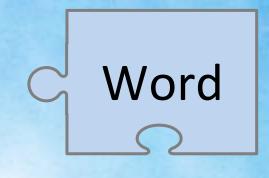
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the precious truths which you impart; and wing our words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

* Lord, Speak to Us That We May Speak LBW 403



4 Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord, until our very hearts o'erflow in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

* APOSTLE'S CREED



C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.



C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.



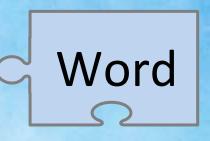
C: He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

* APOSTLE'S CREED



C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



Each petition will end with the words,

A: Merciful God,

The congregation will respond with:

C: You hear our prayer.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

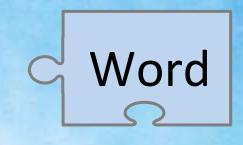


The prayer concludes...

P: Receive our prayers and hold all for whom we pray in your loving arms, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

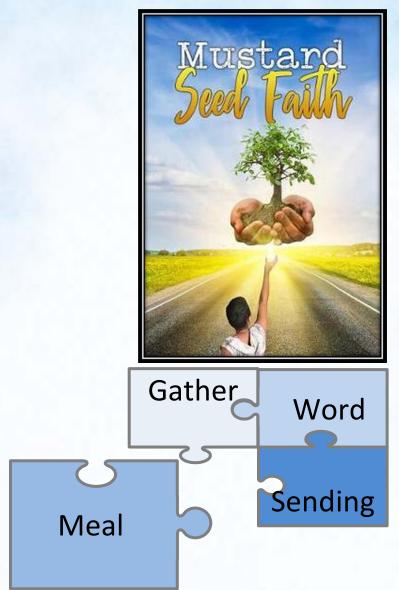


(The Sharing of the Peace that began when the congregation arrived is now shared with the Pastor at this time...)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERINGOFFERTORY PRAYER



* THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.



* THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.



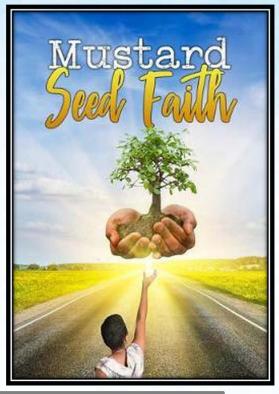
* THE LORD'S PRAYER

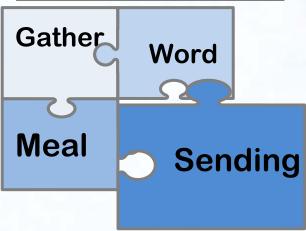
C: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.



ANNOUNCEMENTS





* SENDING BLESSING

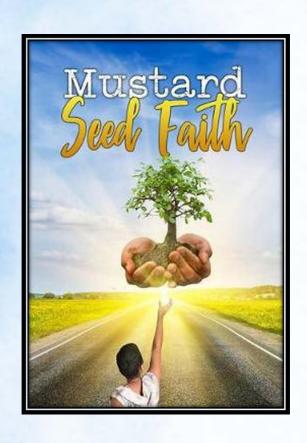
P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod + bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. ...

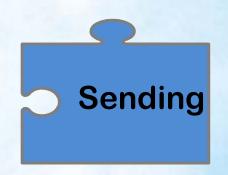
C: Amen.



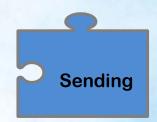
SENDING SONG

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" LBW 479





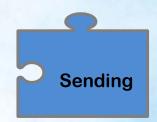
My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!



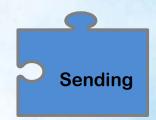
2 May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!



3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from thee aside.



4 When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll; blest Savior, then, in love fear and distrust remove; oh, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!



* DISMISSAL

P: ... depart in Christ's Love.

C: Seeking, welcoming, and serving all. Amen!

POSTLUDE

By

Roxanne Groff

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